GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3665
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
Internet Centres
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to start Internet centres or cyber-cafÃ© in all the district-Headquarters of the country alongwith Telephone, fax, telegraph services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the internet subscribers in the country witness a huge growth rate over the last two years;

(d) if so, the total number of internet subscribers in the country, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide community internet facility in the rural areas where possessing of Telephone and computer by individuals is beyond imagination?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) BSNL has planned to set up franchisee Internet centres or cyber dhabas in all the Block headquarters of the country with telephone only.

(b) Salient features of the plan are given below:

i) BSNL will provide free Internet access in the rural Block Headquarters and in urban Block Headquarters free Internet access for 1500 Hrs. Per annum will be permitted.

ii) The Internet Dhaba franchisees in both rural and urban Block Headquarters will be paid commission @ 25% of the PSTN charges.

iii) BSNL will provide a telephone line for Internet access on out of turn basis without STD/ISD facility.

iv) BSNL will provide training to the franchisees from BSNL`s training centres.

v) Grant of financial loans/incentives to BSNL`s franchisees belonging to backward classes etc. by the designated agencies of the State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. The growth pattern of Internet subscribers is enclosed at Annexure-A.

(d) The number of Internet Subscribers in the country, State-wise is enclosed at Annexure-B.

(e) The scheme of setting up of Internet centres envisages provisions of community Internet facility in rural areas as well.

ANNEXURE- A

STATUS OF INTERNET SERVICES

As on	ISP licences issued (A+B+C)	ISP`s who started service (No.)	Internet Subscribers (Lacs)
13-3-99	85	7	2.3
31-3-2K	270 (44+104+122)	65	9.43
30-6-2K	357 (59+145+153)	82	14.07
31-9-2K	399 (69+161+169)	92	20.45
31-12-2K	441 (80+177+184)	111	25.34
31-3-01	456 (83+184+189)	118	29.69
30-6-01	466 (85+188+193)	132	32.25
30-9-01	481 (86+197+198)	146	35.6

State wise list of ISP subscribers as on 30.09.2001.

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	No. of Subscribers
1	MAHARASHTRA	918,253
2	DELHI	649,007
3	TAMIL NADU	414,872
4	KARNATAKA	328,918
5	WEST BENGAL	267,877
6	GUJRAT	209,950
7	ANDHRA PRADESH	184,066
8	KERALA	137,593
9	RAJASTTHAN	86,089
10	UTTAR PRADESH	75,138
11	MADHYA PRADESH	66,573
12	PUNJAB	57,581
13	CHANDIGARH	57,950
14	JHARKHAND	22,494
15	ORISSA	18,403
16	ASSAM	15,844
17	GOA	5,712
18	UTTARANCHAL	5,889
19	BIHAR	10,883
20	PONDICHERRY	6,153
21	HARYANA	9,506
22	CHATTISGARH	4,226
23	JAMMU & KASHMIR	3,619
24	MEGHALAYA	2,110
25	HIMACHAL PRADESH	2,549
26	SIKKIM	898
27	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	715
28	TRIPURA	615
29	MANIPUR	370
30	NAGALAND	2,119
	TOTAL	3,565,972